



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 219482
DHHS Reference No. E-144-96/2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Nelson et al.

Application No. 09/242,202

Filed: November 01, 1999

For: A NOVEL VECTOR FOR
POLYNUCLEOTIDE VACCINES

RECEIVED

MAY 06 2003

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: Li, Qian J.

**AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION, CLAIMS, AND ABSTRACT
MADE IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2002
(brackets indicate deletions; underlines indicate insertions)**

Amendments to Specifications:

At page 18, line 32, to page 19, line 18:

In one embodiment of the present invention the polynucleotide vector comprises pITL as schematically depicted in Figure 1. cDNA encoding one or more target antigen(s) or antigenic epitopes thereof may be ligated into the cloning site or sequence acceptance site depicted in Figure 1. The sequence acceptance site is designed to directionally accept sequence specific products from rtPCR based cloning strategies via unique sites within an interrupted palindrome recognition sequence for a restriction endonuclease which is incorporated into the PCR primer. In one embodiment, the palindrome recognition sequence is for the Bgl I restriction endonuclease. In a preferred embodiment the sequence acceptance site is as depicted in Figure 2 in which the 5' acceptance site reads on the (+) strand as sequence GCCA/CCATGGCc (SEQ ID NO: 30) wherein GCC sequence is recognized by Bgl I and ATG is the start codon. GCc keeps the sequence in-frame and encodes the amino